

Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Group on Armed Forces Veterans

Annual General Meeting

30th September 2014 at the Scottish Parliament

Minutes

Attending	
Name	Organisation
Mr Alex Fergusson MSP	Scottish Parliament - Convenor
Ms Annabelle Ewing MSP	Scottish Parliament
Willie Rennie MSP	Scottish Parliament
Nanette Milne MSP	Scottish Parliament
Jamie McGrigor MSP	Scottish Parliament
Hugh Henry MSP	Scottish Parliament
Eric Fraser CBE	Scottish Veterans Commissioner
Alister Murphy	Scottish Government, Defence Policy Unit
Anita Poppelston	Scottish Government, Defence Policy Unit
David Cowin	Veterans Scotland (Secretary)
Watty Logan	Scottish Prison Services / Veterans in Custody
Sheila Stickland	Skillforce
David McAlister	SSAFA
Pat McKinnon	Thistle Foundation
Keith McKenzie	Thistle Foundation
Jane Lorimer	VFSN
Alison McCronie	Shelter Scotland
Barry Henderson	Glasgow's Helping Heroes
Maj Gene Maxwell	SO2 Transition HQ 51 Bde
Gary Gray	PoppyScotland
Dr Louise Richards	Division of Clinical Psychology Scotland
Maurice Stuart Corrie	Argyll & Bute Council
Michelle McKearnon	Forth Valley Chambers of Commerce
Tony Carruthers	Housing Options Scotland
Ally Gemmell	ASAP
Steve Conway	CEO Erskine
Aiveen Ryan	AYE Different
Ross Swinton	Veteran
Steven Williams	The Mark Wright Project
Neil Robinson	RBLs
Apologies	
Bruce Crawford MSP	Jim Wilson, Veterans Scotland
Jackson Carlaw MSP	
George Adam MSP	
Col Martin Gibson, Veterans Scotland	

1. **Introduction:** Mr Alex Fergusson MSP, Convenor AFV Cross Party Group, welcomed those attending and indicated that the main focus for consideration at

this meeting was to be the Annual Report and update and to consider topics to be considered in the forthcoming year.

2. **Minutes of Previous meeting:** The minutes of the previous Cross Party Group AGM meeting, held on 3rd September 2013, were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
3. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.
4. **Topics for Consideration:** Mr Fergusson indicated that, as this was the AGM of the Cross Party Group it would be appropriate to review attendance and activity carried out during the year and to consider topics for next year. The matter of office bearers was discussed and a vote was taken; it was agreed by unanimous vote that office bearers should be re-elected en-block.
5. **Annual Report:** The General Secretary Veterans Scotland, will provide a report on activities carried out within the Cross Party Group, a copy is attached.
6. **Recap and Look Forward:** The question was raised regarding the dates for the forthcoming years meeting and the topics to be covered.
7. **Dates of future meetings:** Future meeting dates and topics were agreed as shown below:
 - a. Wednesday 21 January 2015 – Health and Wellbeing
 - b. Wednesday 29 April 2015 – Housing
 - c. Wednesday 17 June 2015 – Support and Employment
 - d. Wednesday 30 September 2015 – AGM

Before the Convenor closed the meeting, at approximately 18:15pm, he thanked those attending and contributing to the discussions, he also thanked Gillian Gillies for drawing together the administrative arrangements for the meeting.